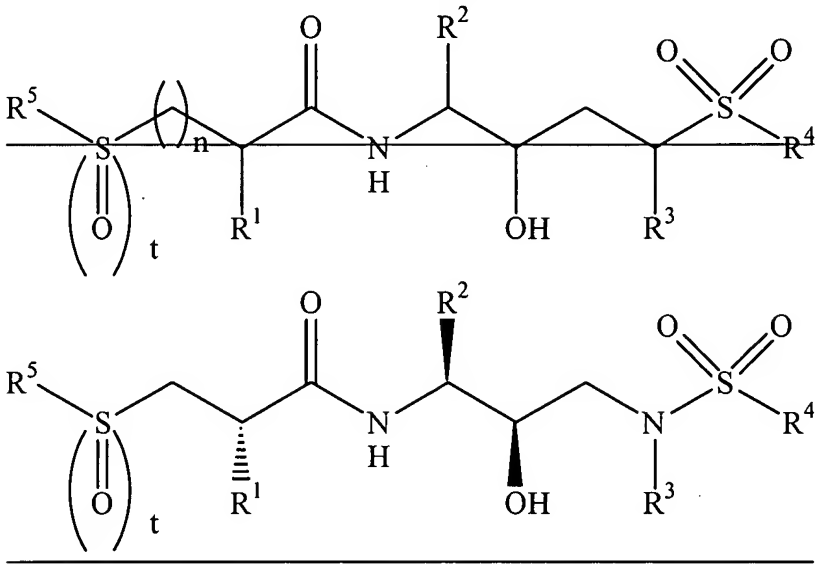
LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (currently amended) Compound represented by the formula:



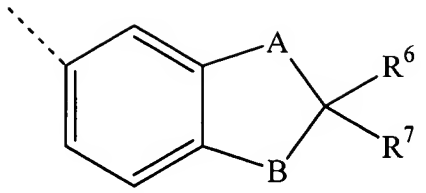
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, prodrug or ester thereof, wherein ~~n and~~ t ~~each independently represent~~ represents 0, 1 or 2;

R^1 represents hydrogen, alkyl of 1-5 carbon atoms, alkenyl of 2-5 carbon atoms, alkynyl of 2-5 carbon atoms, hydroxyalkyl of 1-3 carbon atoms, alkoxyalkyl of 1-3 alkyl and 1-3 alkoxy carbon atoms, cyanoalkyl of 1-3 alkyl carbon atoms, $-CH_2CONH_2$, $-CH_2CH_2CONH_2$, - $CH_2S(O)_2NH_2$, $-CH_2SCH_3$, $-CH_2S(O)CH_3$ or - $CH_2S(O)_2CH_3$ radicals;

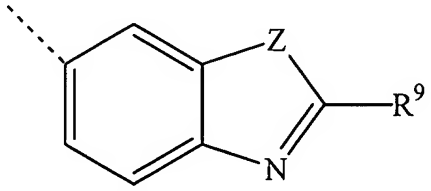
R^2 represents radicals of alkyl of 1-5 carbon atoms, aralkyl of 1-3 alkyl carbon atoms, alkylthioalkyl of 1-3 alkyl carbon atoms, arylthioalkyl of 1-3 alkyl carbon atoms or cyloalkylalkyl of 1-3 alkyl carbon atoms and 3-6 ring member carbon atoms;

R^3 represents radicals of alkyl radical of 1-5 carbon atoms, cyloalkyl of 5-8 ring members or cycloalkylmethyl radical of 3-6 ring members;

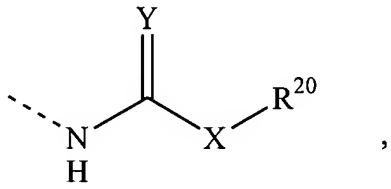
R^4 represents benzo fused 5 to 6 ring member heteroaryl or benzo fused 5 to 6 ring member heterocyclo radicals, or a radical of the formula



wherein A and B each independently represent O, S, SO or SO_2; R^6 represents deuterium, alkyl of 1-5 carbon atoms, fluoro or chloro radicals; R^7 represents hydrogen, deuterium, methyl, fluoro or chloro radicals; or a radical of the formula



wherein Z represents O, S or NH; and R^9 represents a radical of formula



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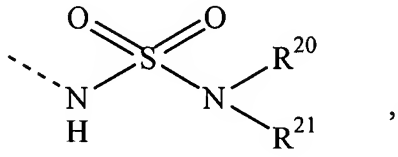

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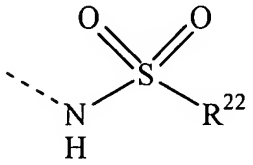


wherein Y represents O, S or NH; X represents a bond, O or NR^{21};

R^{20} represents hydrogen, alkyl of 1 to 5 carbon atoms, alkenyl of 2 to 5 carbon atoms, alkynyl of 2 to 5 carbon atoms, aralkyl of 1 to 5 alkyl carbon atoms, heteroaralkyl of 5 to 6 ring members and 1 to 5 alkyl carbon atoms, heterocycloalkyl of 5 to 6 ring members and 1 to 5 alkyl carbon atoms, aminoalkyl of 2 to 5 carbon atoms, N-mono-substituted or N, N-disubstituted aminoalkyl of 2 to 5 alkyl carbon atoms wherein said substituents are radicals of alkyl of 1 to 3 carbon atoms, aralkyl of 1 to 3 alkyl carbon atoms radicals, carboxyalkyl of 1 to 5 carbon atoms, alkoxycarbonylalkyl of 1 to 5 alkyl carbon atoms, cyanoalkyl of 1 to 5 carbon atoms or hydroxyalkyl of 2 to 5 carbon atoms;

R^{21} represents hydrogen radical or alkyl radical of 1 to 3 carbon atoms; or the radical of formula $-NR^{20}R^{21}$ represents a 5 to 6 ring member heterocyclo radical; and

R^{22} represents alkyl radical of 1 to 3 carbon atoms or $R^{20}R^{21}$N-alkyl radical of 1 to 3 alkyl carbon atoms; and

R^5 represents an alkyl radical of 1-5 carbon atoms, alkenyl radical of 2-5 carbon atoms, alkynyl radical of 2-5 carbon atoms or aryl substituted alkyl radical of 1-5 carbon atoms.

Claims 2-11 (canceled)

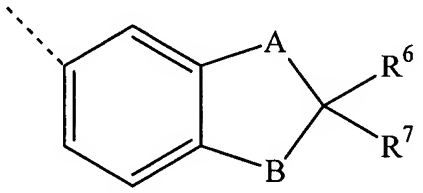
Claim 12 (new) Compound of claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, prodrug or ester thereof, wherein t represents 1 or 2;

R^1 represents hydrogen radical, alkyl radical of 1-3 carbon atoms, alkenyl radical of 2-3 carbon atoms, alkynyl radical of 2-3 carbon atoms radicals or cyanomethyl;

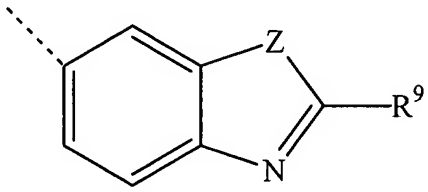
R^2 represents radicals of alkyl of 3-5 carbon atoms, arylmethyl, alkylthioalkyl of 1-3 alkyl carbon atoms, arylthiomethyl or cyloalkylmethyl of 5-6 ring member carbon atoms radicals;

R^3 represents alkyl of 1-5 carbon atoms, cyloalkylmethyl of 3-6 ring members, cyclohexyl or cycloheptyl radicals;

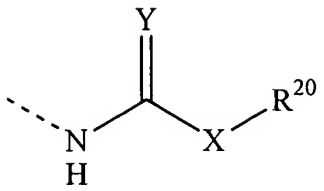
R^4 represents 2-amino-benzothiazol-5-yl, 2-amino-benzothiazol-6-yl, benzothiazol-5-yl, benzothiazol-6-yl, benzoxazol-5-yl, 2,3-dihydrobenzofuran-5-yl, benzofuran-5-yl, 1,3-benzodioxol-5-yl or 1,4-benzodioxan-6-yl radicals; or a radical of the formula



wherein A and B each represent O; R^6 represents deuterium, methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl or fluoro radicals; and R^7 represents hydrogen, deuterium, methyl or fluoro radicals; or a radical of the formula



wherein Z represents O, S or NH; and R^9 represents a radical of formula



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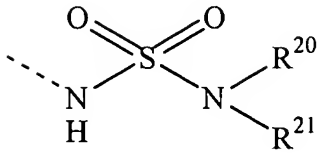

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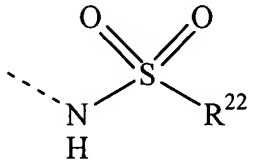


wherein Y represents O, S or NH; X represents a bond, O or NR^{21};

R^{20} represent hydrogen, alkyl of 1 to 5 carbon atoms, phenylalkyl of 1 to 3 alkyl carbon atoms, heterocycloalkyl of 5 to 6 ring members and 1 to 3 alkyl carbon atoms, or N-mono-substituted or N,N-disubstituted aminoalkyl of 2 to 3 alkyl carbon atoms wherein said substituents are alkyl radicals of 1 to 3 carbon atoms; and

R^{21} represents hydrogen or methyl radicals; or the radical of formula $-NR^{20}R^{21}$ represents pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, piperazinyl, 4-methylpiperazinyl, 4-benzylpiperazinyl, morpholinyl or thiamorpholinyl radicals; and

R^{22} represents alkyl radical of 1 to 3 carbon atoms; and

R^5 represents an alkyl radical of 1-5 carbon atoms, alkenyl radical of 3-4 carbon atoms, alkynyl radical of 3-4 carbon atoms or aryl substituted alkyl radical of 1-4 carbon atoms.

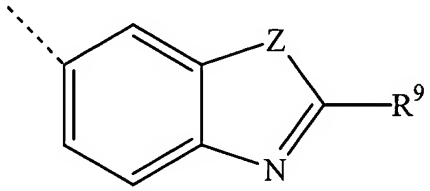
Claim 13 (new) Compound of claim 12, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, prodrug or ester thereof, wherein

R^1 represents hydrogen, methyl, ethyl or cyanomethyl radicals;

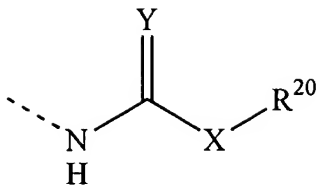
R^2 represents isobutyl, n-butyl, $CH_3SCH_2CH_2$-, phenylthiomethyl, (2-naphthylthio)methyl, benzyl, 4-methoxyphenylmethyl, 4-hydroxyphenylmethyl, 4-fluorophenylmethyl or cyclohexylmethyl radicals;

R^3 represents propyl, isoamyl, isobutyl, butyl, cyclohexyl, cycloheptyl, cylopentylmethyl or cyclohexylmethyl radicals; and

R^4 represents benzothiazol-5-yl, benzothiazol-6-yl, benzoxazol-5-yl, 2,3-dihydrobenzofuran-5-yl, benzofuran-5-yl, 1,3-benzodioxol-5-yl, 2-methyl-1,3-benzodioxol-5-yl, 2,2-dimethyl-1,3-benzodioxol-5-yl, 2,2-dideutero-1,3-benzodioxol-5-yl, 2,2-difluoro-1,3-benzodioxol-5-yl or 1,4-benzodioxan-6-yl radicals; or a radical of the formula



wherein Z represents O, S or NH; and R^9 represents a radical of formula



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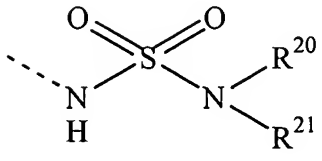

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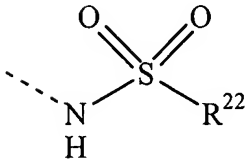

wherein Y represents O, S or NH; X represents a bond, O or NR^{21};

R^{20} represents hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, isobutyl, benzyl, 2-(1-pyrrolidinyl) ethyl, 2-(1-piperidinyl)ethyl, 2-(1-piperazinyl) ethyl, 2-(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)ethyl, 2-(1-morpholinyl)ethyl, 2-(1-thiamorpholinyl)ethyl or 2-(N,N-dimethylamino)ethyl radicals;

R^{21}represents a hydrogen radical; and

R^{22} represents methyl radical; and

R^5 represents an alkyl radical of 1-5 carbon atoms or phenyl substituted alkyl radical of 2-4 carbon atoms.

Claim 14 (new) Compound of claim 13 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, prodrug or ester thereof, wherein

R^1 represents methyl or ethyl radicals;

R^2 represents benzyl, 4-fluorophenylmethyl or cyclo hexylmethyl radicals;

R^4 represents benzothiazol-5-yl, benzothiazol-6-yl, 2,3-dihydrobenzofuran-5-yl, benzofuran-5-yl, 1,3-benzodioxol-5-yl, 2-methyl-1-,3-benzodioxol-5-yl, 2,2-dimethyl-1,3 benzodioxol-5-yl, 2,2-dideutero-1,3-benzodioxol-5-yl, 2,2-difluro-1,3-benzodioxol-5-yl, 1,4-benzodioxan-6-yl, 2-(methoxycarbonylamino) benzothiazol-6-yl or 2-(methoxycarbonylamino) benzimidazol-5-yl radicals; and

R^5 represents methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl or 2-phenylethyl radicals.

Claim 15 (new) Composition comprising a compound of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 16 (new) Method of inhibiting a retroviral protease comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of claim 1.

Claim 17 (new) Method of treating a retroviral infection comprising administering an effective amount of a composition of claim 15.

Claim 18 (new) Method of preventing replication of a retrovirus comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of claim 1.

Claim 19 (new) Method of preventing replication of retrovirus in vitro comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of claim 1.

Claim 20 (new) Method of treating AIDS comprising administering an effective amount of a composition of claim 15.